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Welcome to CIA.

Your presence here indicates how far we have come from the days when we couldn't open a charge account if it meant identifying ourselves as CIA.

The purpose of our open house today is to give you some idea of what your husbands and wives are doing. Perhaps in doing this we can dispell some of the mysteries and folklore that seem to surround the Agency.

I am going to talk with you for a few minutes about the Agency and about the Intelligence Directorate. Then we will show you a film based primarily on the sort of work the Directorate performs. The people you will see in the film are all CIA employees, incidentally, and most of them are doing what they actually do during a working day.

The film is about two years old and quite current professionally. There have been some changes in faces, however. Specifically, I have replaced Jack Smith as DDI and Dick Lehman has replaced Drex Godfrey as Director, Office of Current Intelligence.

After the film, you are free to visit our Headquarters building and see where your spouses work. You may be interested in an art display on the first floor. Each of the paintings and sculptures is the work of a CIA employee.

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The Library also will be open and you are welcome to visit the CIA Operations Center and any offices not closed to visitors. I suggest you may want to look in on the 7th floor conference room where the United States Intelligence Board meets.

You also are welcome to have lunch in the North Cafeteria. I'm sure your spouses have mentioned our cafeterias to you.

That's the program we've planned. Now let me talk to you for a few minutes about the Agency. Some of what I am going to say will be mentioned in the movie but there are a few points I want to emphasize.

This Agency has one purpose -- to provide the President and his senior advisers with factual, and above all, objective intelligence.

I stress objectivity. If the organization which gathers the information advocates one proposed course of action, then the intelligence that organization provides becomes suspect.

This is why CIA does not take part in making policy. In fact, we are prohibited by law from doing so. [?] If we took a role in making policy, we would become partisans and once we had taken a position, we would have lost our credibility.

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I know there have been many references to the "Invisible Government." References implying we somehow manipulate the foreign policy - and even domestic policy - of the United States.

This is just not so. For one thing, this is one of the most regulated agencies in the Government. There are ^{four} ~~two~~ committees in Congress which pass on our budget and the members of the committees are briefed frequently by the Director on all our activities and I mean all. Nothing is kept back.

CIA also is directly subordinate to the National Security Council, although the Director has only an advisory role. As you know the President chairs the NSC. Our activities must be approved by a special committee of the NSC and in turn by the President himself.

Now let me turn for a moment to something you've all heard of -- the "intelligence community."

The members of this community include the intelligence shops of each of the armed forces, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and, of course, CIA. Of these, only CIA produces what we call national intelligence - that is, intelligence which is an agreed synthesis

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of all available information from all available sources.

The other members of the intelligence community produce intelligence for their particular department, but when the President must make a decision, it is made on the basis of the CIA-produced national intelligence.

A bit about the Intelligence Directorate now.

Mr. Helms, of course, is the Director, General Cushman the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, and Mr. Colby the Executive-Director Comptroller. These are the three top men of CIA.

Next in the chain of command come the four Directorates which make up CIA. There is the Plans Directorate responsible for our foreign intelligence collection through human sources; there is the Science and Technology Directorate responsible for much of our technical collection; there is the Support Directorate which does just that; and there is the Intelligence Directorate where your spouse works.

Briefly stated, our job is to produce finished intelligence drawing on all sources and collection techniques. This finished intelligence takes many forms, most of which you will learn about in the movie.

Some of our finished intelligence goes directly to the President in the form of memoranda or the President's Daily Brief. Other items are intended for the NSC Staff or senior policy-makers in the State Department or Department of Defense.

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We have even done a good deal of work for the Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs on tracing the movement of heroin from poppy fields to the refineries in Europe and Southeast Asia.

We produce finished intelligence studies or papers on many subjects. Let me name just a few. We follow closely and report on military developments in the communist world; we do a tremendous amount of economic reporting; we make maps and we have a very important component devoted exclusively to photographic interpretation. We monitor foreign propaganda broadcasts and we operate a central reference service which serves the entire intelligence community.

Neither I nor the film have enough time to describe every job done in this Directorate, but let me assure you they are all important, and they are often very demanding in time and talent.

A Russian intelligence officer was once asked by a Frenchman, who had the best intelligence service in the world. The Russian thought for a minute, then in a rare moment of candor, said "I'm afraid the Americans do."

May I conclude by noting your husband or wife has helped to make this the best intelligence service in the world. I am proud of them.